

2221, a bill to restrict executive agencies from acting in contravention of Executive Order 13950, and for other purposes.

S. 2256

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2256, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to limit the charitable deduction for certain qualified conservation contributions.

S. 2285

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2285, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to maintain the Urban Water Federal Partnership Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2370

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2370, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide rebates for the installation of zero-emission technologies in single-family homes and multifamily buildings, and for other purposes.

S. 2384

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2384, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semiquincentennial anniversary of the establishment of the United States.

S. 2388

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2388, a bill to require the designation of composting as a conservation practice and activity, to provide grants and loan guarantees for composting facilities and programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2389

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2389, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to provide grants to reduce the quantity of food waste, and for other purposes.

S. 2390

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2390, a bill to allow Americans to receive paid leave time to process and address their own health needs and the health needs of their partners during the period following a pregnancy loss, an unsuccessful round of intrauterine insemination or of an assisted reproductive technology procedure, a failed adoption arrangement, a failed surrogacy arrangement, or a diagnosis

or event that impacts pregnancy or fertility, to support related research and education, and for other purposes.

S. 2395

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2395, a bill to require an annual feasibility report on cooperation between the National Guard and Taiwan, and for other purposes.

S. 2434

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2434, a bill to provide tax incentives that support local newspapers and other local media, and for other purposes.

S. 2665

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2665, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to incentivize small business participation in demand side management programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2710

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2710, a bill to promote competition and reduce gatekeeper power in the app economy, increase choice, improve quality, and reduce costs for consumers.

S. 2721

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2721, a bill to require the Internal Revenue Service to issue a report on the tax gap, to establish a fellowship program within the Internal Revenue Service to recruit mid-career tax professionals to create and participate in an audit task force, and for other purposes.

S. 2724

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2724, a bill to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution to prospectively repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force.

S. RES. 336

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 336, a resolution designating September 15, 2021, as "International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day" and supporting the goals and ideals of International Myotonic Dystrophy Awareness Day.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2730. A bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish a pilot grant program to develop, implement, and evaluate comprehensive mental health services programs in elementary schools and secondary schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the "Comprehensive Mental Health in Schools Pilot Program Act of 2021," which I introduced today.

Millions of children and adolescents across the Nation struggle every day with mental health concerns that threaten their emotional well-being and academic achievement.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the need for comprehensive school mental health systems that can provide the support and services that students desperately need.

This bill is a targeted effort to address the worsening mental health crisis in this country. If enacted, this legislation would help schools as they work to promote positive school climates, improve social and emotional learning, and reduce the prevalence and severity of mental illness.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that between March and October of 2020, the proportion of children between the ages of 5 and 11 who visited an emergency department because of a mental health crisis climbed 24 percent compared to the same time period in 2019, and climbed 31 percent for children between the ages of 12 and 17. More people are reporting frequent thoughts of suicide and self-harm than have ever been recorded. The full effects of increased learning loss, social isolation, uncertainty, and trauma may not manifest for years, and schools must be prepared to deal with this preventatively.

That is why I am proud to introduce this bill, which would direct the Secretary of Education to establish a \$20 million 4-year pilot grant program to help schools serving low-income students address mental and behavioral wellbeing, as well as academic, cognitive, and social and emotional development, through multi-tier, evidence-based interventions that foster positive learning environments. More specifically, this funding may be used for providing professional development opportunities, encouraging restorative policies, establishing racially, culturally, and linguistically appropriate trauma-informed practices, and hiring more school-based mental and behavioral health professionals.

I want to thank Representative DAVID TRONE for introducing this bill with me, and I hope our colleagues will join us in support of this solution to our youth mental health crisis.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2738. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print my bill for introduction in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The bill's purpose is to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 2738

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War Congressional Gold Medal Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds that—

(1) a United States Army Dustoff crewman (pilot, crew chief, and medic) is a helicopter crew member who served honorably during the Vietnam War aboard helicopter air ambulances, which were both non-division and division assets under the radio call signs "Dustoff" and "Medevac";

(2) Dustoff crews performed aeromedical evacuation for United States, Vietnamese, and allied forces in Southeast Asia from May 1962 through March 1973;

(3) nearing the end of World War II, the United States Army began using helicopters for medical evacuation and years later, during the Korean War, these helicopter air ambulances were responsible for transporting 17,700 United States casualties;

(4) during the Vietnam War, with the use of helicopter air ambulances, United States Army Dustoff crews pioneered the concept of dedicated and rapid medical evacuation and transported almost 900,000 United States, South Vietnamese, and other allied sick and wounded, as well as wounded enemy forces;

(5) helicopters proved to be a revolutionary tool to assist those injured on the battlefield;

(6) highly skilled and intrepid, Dustoff crews were able to operate the helicopters and land them on almost any terrain in nearly any weather to pick up wounded, after which the Dustoff crews could provide care to these patients while transporting them to ready medical facilities;

(7) the vital work of the Dustoff crews required consistent combat exposure and often proved to be the difference between life and death for wounded personnel;

(8) the revolutionary concept of a dedicated combat life-saving system was cultivated and refined by United States Army Dustoff crews during 11 years of intense conflict in and above the jungles of Southeast Asia;

(9) innovative and resourceful Dustoff crews in Vietnam were responsible for taking the new concept of helicopter medical evacuation, born just a few years earlier, and revolutionizing it to meet and surpass the previously unattainable goal of delivering a battlefield casualty to an operating table within the vaunted "golden hour";

(10) some Dustoff units in Vietnam operated so efficiently that they were able to deliver a patient to a waiting medical facility on an average of 50 minutes from the receipt of the mission, which saved the lives of countless personnel in Vietnam, and this legacy continues for modern-day Dustoff crews;

(11) the inherent danger of being a member of a Dustoff crew in Vietnam meant that there was a 1 in 3 chance of being wounded or killed;

(12) many battles during the Vietnam War raged at night, and members of the Dustoff crews often found themselves searching for a landing zone in complete darkness, in bad weather, over mountainous terrain, and all while being the target of intense enemy fire as they attempted to rescue the wounded, which caused Dustoff crews to suffer a rate of aircraft loss that was more than 3 times that of all other types of combat helicopter missions in Vietnam;

(13) the 54th Medical Detachment typified the constant heroism displayed by Dustoff crews in Vietnam, over the span of a 10-month tour, with only 3 flyable helicopters and 40 soldiers in the unit, evacuating 21,435 patients in 8,644 missions while being airborne for 4,832 hours;

(14) collectively, the members of the 54th Medical Detachment earned 78 awards for valor, including 1 Medal of Honor, 1 Distinguished Service Cross, 14 Silver Star Medals, 26 Distinguished Flying Crosses, 2 Bronze Star Medals for valor, 4 Air Medals for valor, 4 Soldier's Medals, and 26 Purple Heart Medals;

(15) the 54th Medical Detachment displayed heroism on a daily basis and set the standard for all Dustoff crews in Vietnam;

(16) 6 members of the 54th Medical Detachment are in the Dustoff Hall of Fame, 3 are in the Army Aviation Hall of Fame, and 1 is the only United States Army aviator in the National Aviation Hall of Fame;

(17) Dustoff crew members are among the most highly decorated soldiers in American military history;

(18) in early 1964, Major Charles L. Kelly was the Commanding Officer of the 57th Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance), Provisional, in Soc Trang, South Vietnam;

(19) Major Kelly helped to forge the Dustoff call sign into history as one of the most welcomed phrases to be heard over the radio by wounded soldiers in perilous and dire situations;

(20) in 1964, Major Kelly was killed in action as he gallantly maneuvered his aircraft to save a wounded American soldier and several Vietnamese soldiers and boldly replied, after being warned to stay away from the landing zone due to the ferocity of enemy fire, "When I have your wounded.";

(21) General William Westmoreland, Commander, Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (1964-1968), singled out Major Kelly as an example of "the greatness of the human spirit" and highlighted his famous reply as an inspiration to all in combat;

(22) General Creighton Abrams, Westmoreland's successor (1968-1972), and former Chief of Staff of the United States Army, highlighted the heroism of Dustoff crews, "A special word about the Dustoffs . . . Courage above and beyond the call of duty was sort of routine to them. It was a daily thing, part of the way they lived. That's the great part, and it meant so much to every last man who served there. Whether he ever got hurt or not, he knew Dustoff was there.";

(23) Dustoff crews possessed unique skills and traits that made them highly successful in aeromedical evacuation in Vietnam, including indomitable courage, extraordinary aviation skill and sound judgment under fire, high-level medical expertise, and an unequalled dedication to the preservation of human life;

(24) members of the United States Armed Forces on the ground in Vietnam had their confidence and battlefield prowess reinforced knowing that there were heroic Dustoff crews just a few minutes from the fight, which was instrumental to their well-being, willingness to fight, and morale;

(25) military families in the United States knew that their loved ones would receive the quickest and best possible care in the event of a war-time injury, thanks to the Dustoff crews;

(26) the willingness of Dustoff crews to also risk their lives to save helpless civilians left an immeasurably positive impression on the people of Vietnam and exemplified the finest American ideals of compassion and humanity; and

(27) Dustoff crews from the Vietnam War hailed from every State in the United States and represented numerous ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) PRESENTATION AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the presentation, on behalf of Congress, of a single gold medal of appropriate design in honor of the Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their heroic military service, which saved countless lives and contributed directly to the defense of our country.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award referred to in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense.

(c) SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Following the award of the gold medal in honor of the Dustoff Crews of the Vietnam War, the gold medal shall be given to the Smithsonian Institution, where it will be available for display as appropriate and available for research.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Smithsonian Institution should also make the gold medal awarded pursuant to this Act available for display elsewhere, particularly at appropriate locations associated with the Vietnam War, and that preference should be given to locations affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution.

SEC. 4. DUPLICATE MEDALS.

The Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck pursuant to section 3 at a price sufficient to cover the cost thereof, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

SEC. 5. STATUS OF MEDALS.

(a) NATIONAL MEDAL.—The medal struck pursuant to this Act is a national medal for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(b) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code, all medals struck under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

SEC. 6. AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS; PROCEEDS OF SALE.

(a) AUTHORITY TO USE FUND AMOUNTS.—There is authorized to be charged against the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund such amounts as may be necessary to pay for the costs of the medals struck under this Act.

(b) PROCEEDS OF SALE.—Amounts received from the sale of duplicate bronze medals authorized under section 4 shall be deposited

into the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 2742. A bill to establish the COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

S. 2742

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Recovering Fraudulent Claims Act”.

SEC. 2. COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FRAUD TASK FORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, shall establish the COVID-19 Unemployment Insurance Fraud Task Force (in this section referred to as the “Task Force”).

(2) DUTIES.—

(A) INVESTIGATION.—The Task Force shall investigate fraud with respect to COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including an identification of and investigation into—

(i) subject to paragraph (3), any alleged instance of fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits to any individual, entity, or organization (either foreign or domestic) that was not eligible to receive such benefits; and

(ii) any alleged instance in which an individual, entity, or organization (either foreign or domestic) stole or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(B) SUBMISSION OF FINDINGS TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Task Force shall submit to the Attorney General the Task Force’s findings with respect to the investigation conducted under subparagraph (A) to assist the Attorney General in the prosecution of fraud concerning COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits.

(3) CLARIFICATION.—The investigation conducted under paragraph (2)(A) shall not include an identification of or investigation into any improper payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits to any individual that was eligible to receive such benefits.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, shall appoint to the Task Force a representative from each of the following:

(A) The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Labor.

(B) The Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(C) The Department of Homeland Security.

(D) The Internal Revenue Service.

(E) The United States Postal Service.

(F) The Office of the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration.

(G) The Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security.

(H) A nonprofit organization representing State workforce agencies.

(I) A national law enforcement organization.

(J) Any other organization the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, determines to be appropriate.

(2) PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION.—The members of the Task Force shall not receive

any compensation from the Federal Government by reason of their service on the Task Force.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 1 year after the date on which the Task Force is established under subsection (a)(1), the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that contains a detailed description of the following:

(A) The Task Force’s findings with respect to the investigation conducted under subsection (a)(2)(A), including the following:

(i) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Task Force as having allegedly obtained or attempted to obtain fraudulent payments of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including the amount of such benefits that were identified by the Task Force as having been obtained.

(ii) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Task Force as having allegedly stolen or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(iii) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Attorney General during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) and ending on the date of the establishment of the Task Force under subsection (a)(1) as having allegedly obtained or attempted to obtain fraudulent payments of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits.

(iv) The total number of individuals and an itemized list of entities and organizations (either foreign or domestic) that were identified by the Attorney General during the period beginning on the date of enactment of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) and ending on the date of the establishment of the Task Force under subsection (a)(1) as having allegedly stolen or attempted to steal the identity or personally identifiable information of any United States citizen in an effort to obtain COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including any instance of synthetic identity theft.

(v) The total number of individuals the Attorney General has prosecuted for fraud concerning COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, including a list of the criminal charges brought and any prison sentences or accompanying fines imposed.

(B) The steps the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency is taking, or is planning to take, to prosecute or otherwise penalize the individuals, entities, or organizations described in subparagraph (A).

(C) Any challenge or impediment the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency has encountered in prosecuting or otherwise penalizing such individuals, entities, or organizations.

(D) The efforts the Attorney General or the head of any other relevant Federal or State agency is taking, or is planning to take, to recover any fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits, and the challenges associated with such efforts.

(E) The total amount of fraudulent COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits that were issued by States, including a State-by-State breakdown of such amount.

(F) The total amount of fraudulent COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits that the Attorney General or the head of any other

relevant Federal or State agency has been able to recover.

(G) The specific challenges the Task Force encountered in carrying out subsection (a)(2)(A).

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Subject to paragraph (3), not later than 1 year after the submission of the report under paragraph (1), the Task Force shall submit to the appropriate Committees of Congress a final report that includes updated information regarding subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (1).

(3) DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION.—No return information (as defined in section 6103(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) may be included in a report submitted under paragraph (1) or (2), except as authorized by such section 6103.

(d) SUNSET.—The Task Force shall terminate on the later of—

(1) the date on which the Task Force submits the final report under subsection (c)(2); or

(2) a specific date selected by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary, that falls after the date set forth in paragraph (1).

(e) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVID-19 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS.—The term “COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits” means unemployment insurance benefits provided under any of the programs under section 2102, 2104, or 2107 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9021, 9023, 9025).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Labor.

(4) SYNTHETIC IDENTITY THEFT.—The term “synthetic identity theft” means the use of a combination of personally identifiable information to fabricate an individual or entity in order to commit a dishonest act for personal or financial gain.

SEC. 3. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Comptroller General”) shall conduct a study on unemployment insurance fraud with respect to COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits (as defined in section 2(e)). Such study shall include an analysis of—

(1) how the amounts appropriated under section 2118 of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9034), as added by section 9032 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2), are being utilized by States to—

(A) detect and prevent fraud in any such program; and

(B) recover any fraudulent payment of COVID-19 unemployment insurance benefits; (2) any reason that such appropriated amounts were not used by States to detect and prevent such fraud and to recover such fraudulent payments;

(3) whether such appropriated amounts were successful in helping States to detect and prevent such fraud and to recover such fraudulent payments; and

(4) any other area determined appropriate by the Comptroller General.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the

Comptroller General shall submit to Congress a report containing the results of the study conducted under subsection (a), together with recommendations for such legislation and administrative action as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 357—HONORING MISSOURIANS WHO MADE THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. HAWLEY (for himself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 357

Whereas Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz of Wentzville, Missouri, was a dear and loving son, brother, and friend, who sought constantly to lift those around him and care for others in need;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz was a devoted patriot who knew that he wanted to serve in the Marine Corps by his sophomore year of high school and trained relentlessly on his own initiative so that he might one day wear the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz enlisted in the Marine Corps before his 18th birthday and went on to serve with gallantry as a Marine Corps infantryman, upholding the standards and traditions of all the brave service members from the State of Missouri who came before him;

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz went to Kabul, Afghanistan, in August 2021 and, despite the risks, demonstrated heroic commitment to supporting the evacuation of citizens of the United States, allies of the United States, partners of the United States, and innocent civilians;

Whereas, on August 26, 2021, at just 20 years of age, while serving alongside his fellow citizens to provide safe passage to those in need, Lance Corporal Schmitz made the ultimate sacrifice at the international airport in Kabul, giving his life so that others might live; and

Whereas Lance Corporal Schmitz was the last and youngest of the 56 Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Freedom's Sentinel and whose names shall not be forgotten, including—

- (1) Christopher Michael Allgaier;
- (2) Michael Chad Bailey;
- (3) Michael Joe Beckerman;
- (4) Brian Jay Bradbury;
- (5) Paul Douglas Carron;
- (6) Jacob Russell Carver;
- (7) Joseph Brian Cemper;
- (8) Robert Keith Charlton;
- (9) Richard Michael Crane;
- (10) Robert Wayne Crow, Jr.;
- (11) Justin Eric Culbreth;
- (12) Robert Gene Davis;
- (13) Edward Fred Dixon III;
- (14) Jason David Fingar;
- (15) James Matthew Finley;
- (16) Zachary Michael Fisher;
- (17) Jacob Rudeloff Fleischer;
- (18) Blake Wade Hall;
- (19) Nicholas Joel Hand;
- (20) James Warren Harrison, Jr.;
- (21) Jonathon Michael Dean Hostetter;
- (22) James Roger Ide V.;
- (23) Issac Brandon Jackson;
- (24) Christopher M. Katzenberger;
- (25) Jeremy Andrew Katzenberger;
- (26) William Jo Kerwood;
- (27) Daniel Leon Kisling, Jr.;

- (28) Denis Deleon Kisseloff;
- (29) Donald Matthew Marler;
- (30) Matthew David Mason;
- (31) Richard Lewis McNulty III;
- (32) Bradley Louis Melton;
- (33) James Douglas Mowris;
- (34) Michael Robert Patton;
- (35) Joseph Michael Peters;
- (36) Robert Wayne Pharris;
- (37) Ricky Linn Richardson, Jr.;
- (38) Charles Montague Sadell;
- (39) Charles Ray Sanders, Jr.;
- (40) Ronald Wayne Sawyer;
- (41) Patrick Wayne Schimmel;
- (42) Jared Marcus Schmitz;
- (43) Roslyn Littman Schulte;
- (44) Billy Joe Siercks;
- (45) Adam Olin Smith;
- (46) Tyler James Smith;
- (47) Christopher Glenn Stark;
- (48) Sean Patrick Sullivan;
- (49) Philip James Svitak;
- (50) Phillip David Vinnedge;
- (51) Matthew Herbert Walker;
- (52) Jeffrey Lee White, Jr.;
- (53) Matthew Willard Wilson;
- (54) Vincent Cortez Winston, Jr.;
- (55) Sterling William Wyatt; and
- (56) Gunnar William Zwilling: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

- (1) Marine Corps Lance Corporal Jared Schmitz and his fellow Missourians who made the ultimate sacrifice during the war in Afghanistan represent the very best of the State of Missouri and the United States; and
- (2) the United States honors those brave service members and their families and shall never forget the services they rendered and sacrifices they made in the defense of their grateful Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 358—HONORING MR. STEVE VERETT FOR MORE THAN 24 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE COTTON INDUSTRY AND TO PLAINS COTTON GROWERS, INC.

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 358

Whereas the Texas High Plains region is one of the largest cotton-producing regions in the world, and the sale of cotton brings more than \$2.2 billion annually to the Texas economy;

Whereas, since 1956, Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., has provided premier service and support to the cotton industry in the High Plains region on matters including research, market development, and public policy at both the State and Federal levels;

Whereas Steve Verett has served as the chief executive officer since 1997, being only the third person to hold this role since Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.'s formation in 1956;

Whereas throughout his 24 years of service, Steve Verett's leadership has established an environment that encourages organizational staff and volunteer leaders to continually find ways to improve the organization in order to meet the unique challenges that face the region's cotton economy; and

Whereas Steve Verett has been a dedicated policy advocate for Plains Cotton Growers, Inc., and the cotton industry, working on countless legislative and regulatory efforts, including the development of four farm bills, Federal crop insurance reform, and numerous ad hoc assistance programs, and one of

the most notable efforts where he played a central role was getting cotton back into title I of the 2018 Farm Bill: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Steve Verett for his lifelong dedication and service to the cotton industry and to Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.;

(2) recognizes Steve Verett for his considerable achievements during his tenure as chief executive officer over the last 24 years with Plains Cotton Growers, Inc.; and

(3) congratulates Steve Verett on his retirement and extends to him best wishes in all his future endeavors.

SENATE RESOLUTION 359—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD DESIGNATE THE AFGHAN TALIBAN AS A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, FREEZE ALL ASSETS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN HELD IN THE UNITED STATES, AND USE ALL AUTHORITY AND INFLUENCE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO PROHIBIT THE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO THE AFGHAN TALIBAN BY OTHER COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BURR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 359

Whereas the designation of an organization as a Foreign Terrorist Organization "play[s] a critical role in our fight against terrorism and [is] an effective means of curtailing support for terrorist activities", according to the Department of State;

Whereas, under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189), the Secretary of State may designate an organization as a Foreign Terrorist Organization if the organization is a foreign organization, the organization engages in terrorist activity or retains the capability and intent to engage in terrorist activity or terrorism, and the terrorist activity or terrorism of the organization threatens the security of United States nationals or the national security of the United States;

Whereas, as of August 2021, there are 72 designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations, including radical Islamic terror groups such as Al-Qaida, which was designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization in 1999;

Whereas, prior to the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States, the Afghan Taliban provided a safe haven for Al-Qaida to plan, train, and operate freely;

Whereas, following those attacks on the United States, which killed almost 3,000 people, the Afghan Taliban continued to support Al-Qaida;

Whereas Al-Qaida first pledged allegiance to the Afghan Taliban in the 1990s and have reaffirmed their loyalty to the Afghan Taliban repeatedly since 2001;

Whereas, since the early 1990s, the Afghan Taliban have been responsible for the deaths of countless innocent civilians in Afghanistan, terrorizing the countryside and the cities alike;

Whereas the United Nations report of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team released in June 2021 stated that "the [Afghan] Taliban and Al-Qaida remain closely aligned and show no indication